

Weekly Lenten Devotional (1): How might God Rescue you today?

Dear Church Family,

I pray the peace of our Savior Jesus Christ find you well this morning. Over the season of Lent, I will be sending our Weekly Lenten devotionals that center around one the scriptures of Lent and the questions I have gave you on Ash Wednesday and this past Sunday in worship. If you did not receive those questions, I will have Dori attach them to this email for your use during this season of Lent. I pray these weekly Lenten devotions will bless you over the next several weeks.

As I reflect on this first week of Lent, I am grateful for the ways you have shown up as a community for one another and dedicated yourselves to centering and embracing Jesus. I pray the beginning of your Lent has been a blessing to you and deepened your relationship with Christ as you have cultivated honest conversations and a spiritual practice to draw you into *God's Steadfast Love*.

Yesterday in worship, we focused on Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 and Luke 4:1-13. These scriptures reminded us of how God will be with us in times of "trouble" and seeks to "rescue" us (Psalm 91:15). Luke 4 reminded us of how Jesus walked for 40 days in the desert and was tempted by Satan, so now we take 40 days during Lent to walk a little closer with Jesus. We fast and add spiritual practices to our lives as a way of honoring Him inviting Christ into the desert places and brokenness of our own lives.

Today, I invite you to re-read these scripture texts of Psalm 91 and Luke 4. Explore the chapters before and after them. Look for the Spirit to brings these texts to life for you in a new way. Discern how the Holy One may be trying to "rescue" you or encouraging you to offer "rescue" to another. Ponder how God may be asking you to attend to your relationships that come with your faith, with God and my neighbors? May these spiritual practices of prayer, studying your scriptures, and reflecting on God's inspired word lead you towards restoration and wholeness this week.

Still growing in grace,

Rev. Kristen Perkins Glover